

REMARKS

Claims 19-35 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 34 and 35 are amended, and claims 1-18 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Support for the amendments to claims 34 and 35 can be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, in paragraph [0004] and in claims 19, 34 and 35 as originally filed. No new matter is added by these amendments.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 19-33 contain allowable subject matter.

II. Claim Rejections

A. 35 U.S.C. §102/§103

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, 8-18 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,294,812 to Oler, U.S. Patent No. 4,394,363 to Haese et al. or U.S. Patent No. 4,111,759 to Didycz et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to claim 35, claims 1, 2 and 8-18 having been canceled herein.

Claim 35 has been amended herein to depend from claim 19, which contains allowable subject matter. Applicant respectfully submits that for at least the same reasons that claim 19 is allowable, its dependent claim 35 is also allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B. 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, 8-18, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter that Applicants regard as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to claims 34 and 35, claims 1, 2 and 8-18 having been canceled herein.

With respect to claim 35, the Examiner rejects the claim as indefinite because "it is indefinite as to what the composition of a SC-1 chemical bath would be." While Applicant does not necessarily agree with this rejection, claim 35 has been amended herein to further define the SC-1 chemical bath.

With respect to claim 34, the Examiner rejects the claim as indefinite because of improper Markush language. Claim 34 is amended herein to recite proper Markush language.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 34 and 35.

III. - Claim Objections

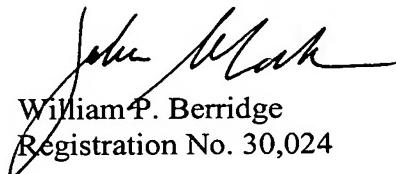
The Examiner objects to claims 8-17 as failing to differ substantially from claims 19-34, and objects to claim 18 as failing to differ substantially from claim 35. As discussed in during the August 17 telephone conversation between Examiner Langel and the undersigned, claims 3-7 are objected to as dependant upon a rejected base claim, but are otherwise allowable. Because claims 3-18 are canceled herein, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the claim objections.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 19-35 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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